

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GABORO 00609 111616Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01
L-03 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01 /094 W

-----111736Z 126736 /42

R 111430Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9609

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GABORONE 0609

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

MASERU FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, BC

SUBJECT: DIAMOND PRICE INCREASE

1. AT DINNER HOSTED BY ANGLO-AMERICAN CORP. DIRECTOR MARCH 10, ANTHONY OPPENHEIMER TOLD CHARGE' THAT ACROSS-THE-BOARD WORLD PRICE FOR UNCUT DIAMONDS WOULD UNDERGO AVERAGE FIFTEEN PERCENT INCREASE BEGINNING MARCH 28. INCREASE AT RETAIL LEVEL WILL BE VERY MUCH MORE, HE ADDED, BUT WOULD NOT SPECULATE EXACTLY HOW MUCH IT MIGHT AMOUNT TO. HE SAID THIS INCREASE REPRESENTS INFLATION TO SOME EXTENT, BUT ALSO A REAL INCREASE IN RELATIVE VALUE OF DIAMONDS.

2. ON MARCH 11, MINISTER OF MINERAL RESOURCES CHIEPE TOLD CHARGE' SHE HAD BEEN INFORMED OF THE INCREASE ONLY TWO DAYS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 GABORO 00609 111616Z

BEFORE, AND HAD JUST TOLD VICE PRESIDENT THAT MORNING (PRESIDENT HAS BEEN OUT OF COUNTRY). SHE DID NOT SAY WHEN GOB WOULD MAKE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT.

3. COMMENT: IN RECENT BUDGET SPEECH, VICE PRESIDENT STATED DIAMONDS WERE EXPECTED TO PRODUCE 36 MILLION PULA (OVER 40 MILLION DOLLARS) IN REVENUE DURING FINANCIAL

YEAR ENDING MARCH 31. WITH MINING OPERATIONS AT LETLHAKANE GOING ON STREAM FULLY, ANGLO-AMERICAN (DEBEERS BOTSWANA) ANTICIPATES A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN TOTAL OUTPUT THIS COMING YEAR, PARTICULARLY IN GEM QUALITY STONES. THIS, PLUS THE FIFTEEN PERCENT AVERAGE INCREASE, COULD BOOST TOTAL GOB REVENUES FROM DIAMOND MINING TO OVER 60 MILLION PULA FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1977-1978. END COMMENT.

4. SINCE GOB HAS NOT YET MADE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRICE INCREASE, THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL.

ALBERTI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIAMONDS, PRICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GABORO00609
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770084-0948
Format: TEL
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770370/aaaacjle.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5ad93dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3141628
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DIAMOND PRICE INCREASE
TAGS: EMIN, BC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5ad93dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009